

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Resolution In Support Of Locating Modern Pit Facility At The Savannah River Site.**

WHEREAS, The military strength of the United States has preserved world peace for over fifty years; and

WHEREAS, Nuclear weapons have been and still are an essential part of our Nation's military arsenal; and

WHEREAS, The United States has not manufactured a new nuclear weapon since 1990, and the average age of a nuclear weapon in the US stockpile is over 25 years. The increasingly overage weapons stockpile has resulted in reliability concerns; and

WHEREAS, the United States is the only nuclear power in the world with the capability to manufacture nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, the United States has determined that it is in the National interest to reestablish the capability to manufacture new nuclear weapons by constructing and operating a Modern Pit Facility to produce plutonium parts critical to nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site has a large and well-trained workforce with extensive expertise and experience in receiving, processing and shipping plutonium; and

WHEREAS, the Savannah River Site has the world's most complete and modern infrastructure specifically designed to safely support plutonium activities, including waste management of all types; and

WHEREAS, the Savannah River Site has a demonstrated record of public and worker safety and environmental protection in the conduct of activities involving plutonium; and

WHEREAS, the location of a Modern Pit Facility at the Savannah River Site provides the nation with the greatest potential for successfully and quickly reestablishing the capability to manufacture plutonium pits for nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Georgia surrounding the Savannah River site are proud of the past support for programs important to the Nation's well-being, support that continues at the same level today; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Georgia surrounding the Savannah River Site have full confidence in the ability of the Savannah River Site to safely and successfully conduct this high-priority national defense activity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY COMMISSION as follows:

1. The United States should expeditiously act to reestablish the capability to manufacture plutonium parts for nuclear weapons.
2. The Department of Energy should locate the new Modern Pit Facility at a location with (1) a workforce and infrastructure best qualified to receive, process and ship plutonium parts necessary for nuclear weapons; (2) a demonstrated record of public and worker safety and environmental protection; (3) currently existing plutonium expertise and facilities, thereby resulting in time and cost advantages; and (4) a strong based of community support for national defense missions; and
3. The Augusta-Richmond County Commission enthusiastically supports locating the Modern Pit Facility at the Savannah River Site as best serving the National interest.

DULY ADOPTED this 1st day of July, 2003.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA